

1 CLAIMS

2 We Claim:

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- 4 1. A system, comprising:
- 5 a server configured to be coupled in data communication with a network, the
- 6 server including a computer-accessible database of one or more data records, each of
- 7 the one or more data records including:
- 8 a printer type identification;
- 9 one or more substitute printer driver identifications associated with the
- 10 printer type identification; and
- 11 one or more compatibility ratings associated with the printer type
- 12 identification and a particular one of the one or more substitute printer driver
- 13 identifications.
- 14
- 15 2. The system of claim 1, and further comprising a printer configured to be
- 16 coupled in data communication with the network, the printer defining a printer type
- 17 substantially equivalent to the printer type identification of at least one of the data
- 18 records of the computer-accessible database.
- 19
- 20 3. The system of claim 2, and wherein the server includes at least one
- 21 substitute printer driver associated with the printer.
- 22
- 23 4. The system of claim 1, and wherein the server is defined by a mobile
- 24 enterprise printing server.

1           5.     The system of claim 1, and further comprising a user computer configured  
2 to be coupled in data communication with the network, the user computer configured to:  
3           access the computer-accessible database of the server by way of the network in  
4 response to a user input;  
5           display a listing corresponding to the contents of at least one of the one or more  
6 data records of the computer-accessible database;  
7           receive a user selection input corresponding to one of the one or more substitute  
8 printer driver identifications; and  
9           issue a substitute printer driver selection command to the server by way of the  
10 network in response to the user selection input.

11  
12           6.     The system of claim 5, and wherein the server is further configured to  
13 establish an operational association between a particular substitute printer driver and a  
14 particular printer coupled to the network in accordance with the substitute printer driver  
15 selection command issued by the user computer.

16  
17           7.     The system of claim 1, and wherein the server is further configured to:  
18           receive an update command;  
19           access a predetermined Internet website by way of the network in response to  
20 the update command, the Internet website hosting a network-accessible database;  
21           download one or more data records available from the network-accessible  
22 database of the Internet website; and  
23           amend the computer-accessible database of the server in accordance with the  
24 one or more downloaded data records.

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26           8.     The system of claim 7, and wherein the server is further configured to add  
27 at least one of the one or more downloaded data records to the computer-accessible  
28 database of the server.

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30           9.     The system of claim 7, and wherein the server is further configured to  
31 download the one or more data records in accordance with a comparison between the  
32 network-accessible database of the Internet website and the computer-accessible  
33 database of the server.

1           10.    The system of claim 1, and further comprising:  
2           an e-mail server configured to be coupled in data communication with the  
3 network;  
4           a wireless bridge configured to couple one or more devices in wireless data  
5 communication with the network; and  
6           a mobile device configured to be coupled in wireless data communication with the  
7 network by way of the wireless bridge, the mobile device further configured to:  
8                 selectively download an electronic message from the e-mail server by way  
9                 of the wireless bridge in response to a user input, the electronic message  
10                referencing one or more associated electronic documents not downloaded to the  
11                mobile device;  
12                receive an input corresponding to a user selection of one or more of the  
13                electronic documents; and  
14                issue a print command to the server by way of the wireless bridge in  
15                response to the input, the print command including a reference to the electronic  
16                message, a reference to the one or more user selected electronic documents, at  
17                least one credential, and a printer type reference.

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19           11.    The system of claim 10, and further comprising a printer coupled in data  
20 communication with the network, the printer defining a printer type corresponding to the  
21 printer type reference of the print command, and wherein the server is further configured  
22 to:  
23                receive the print command issued by the mobile device by way of the wireless  
24 bridge;  
25                verify the at least one credential of the print command;  
26                download the one or more user selected electronic documents from the e-mail  
27 server in accordance with the associated reference;  
28                convert the one or more user selected electronic documents into respective print  
29 ready data files using a predetermined substitute printer driver of the server; and  
30                send the one or more print ready data files to the printer.

31  
32           12.    The system of claim 1, and wherein at least one of the one or more  
33 compatibility ratings is defined by one of a star rating, or a percentage rating.

1           13.    A method of data communication, comprising:  
2            downloading an electronic message referencing one or more associated  
3 electronic documents;  
4            issuing a print command including a reference to the electronic message, a  
5 selection of at least one of the one or more associated electronic documents, at least  
6 one credential, and a printer type reference;  
7            converting the at least one selected electronic document into a print ready data  
8 file using a substitute printer driver corresponding to the printer type reference; and  
9            imaging the at least one printer ready data file on sheet media using a printer  
10 corresponding to the printer type reference.

11  
12           14.    The method of claim 13, and further comprising verifying the at least one  
13 credential prior to the converting the at least one selected electronic document and the  
14 imaging the at least one print ready data file.

15  
16           15.    The method of claim 13, and further comprising downloading the at least  
17 one selected electronic document from an e-mail server in accordance with the  
18 reference to the electronic message.

19  
20           16.    The method of claim 13, and further comprising establishing an  
21 operational association between the printer and the substitute printer driver prior to the  
22 downloading the electronic message.

1           17.     A method of managing a system, comprising:  
2           receiving an error message indicative of an operational problem with a printer  
3 driver of the system;  
4           accessing a computer-accessible database including one or more data records;  
5           displaying a listing corresponding to the contents of the one or more data  
6 records, each data record including a printer type identification, one or more substitute  
7 printer driver identifications associated with the printer type identification, and one or  
8 more compatibility ratings associated with the printer type identification and a particular  
9 one of the substitute printer driver identifications;  
10          issuing a selection command corresponding to a particular one of the displayed  
11 substitute printer driver identifications; and  
12          establishing an operational association between a substitute printer driver and a  
13 printer of the system in accordance with the selection command.

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15          18.     The method of claim 17, further comprising:  
16          converting an electronic document into a print ready data file using the substitute  
17 printer driver; and  
18          imaging the print ready date file on sheet media using the printer.

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20          19.     The method of claim 17, and wherein the accessing the  
21 computer-accessible database is further defined by accessing the computer-accessible  
22 database by way of an Internet website.

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24          20.     The method of claim 17, and wherein the accessing the  
25 computer-accessible database is further defined by accessing the computer-accessible  
26 database of a mobile enterprise printing server.

1           21.    A method of maintaining a database, comprising:  
2           browsing an Internet website hosting a network-accessible database, the  
3 network-accessible database including one or more data records;  
4           determining that a particular known printer type identification, an associated  
5 substitute printer driver identification, and a compatibility rating associated with the  
6 printer type identification and the substitute printer driver identification, are not present  
7 within the one or more data records of the network-accessible database;  
8           entering the particular known printer type identification, the associated substitute  
9 printer driver identification, and the associated compatibility rating into a feedback form  
10 of the Internet website; and  
11          amending the network-accessible database in accordance with the particular  
12 known printer type identification, the associated substitute printer driver identification,  
13 and the associated compatibility rating, entered into the feedback form.  
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15          22.    The method of claim 21, and wherein the entering the associated  
16 compatibility rating into the feedback form of the Internet website is further defined by  
17 entering one of a star rating, or a percentage rating.  
18

19          23.    A method of managing a database, comprising:  
20          issuing an update command to a server, the server including a  
21 computer-accessible database;  
22          accessing a predetermined network-accessible database in response to the  
23 update command;  
24          downloading at least one data record from the network-accessible database, the  
25 at least one data record including a printer type identification, one or more substitute  
26 printer drivers associated with the printer type identification, and one or more  
27 compatibility ratings associated with the printer type identification and a particular one of  
28 the one or more substitute printer driver identifications; and  
29          amending at least one data record of the computer-accessible database of the  
30 server in accordance with the at least one downloaded data record.  
31

32          24.    The method of claim 23, and wherein accessing the predetermined  
33 network-accessible database is further defined by accessing the predetermined  
34 network-accessible database by way of a predetermined Internet website.

25. An apparatus, comprising:  
a computer-readable storage media including an executable program code, the executable program code configured to cause a processor of a server to selectively:  
provide an electronic listing corresponding to one or more data records of a database of the server in response to a listing command input, each of the one or more data records including a printer type identification, one or more substitute printer driver identifications associated with the printer type identification, and one or more compatibility ratings associated with the printer type identification and a particular one of the one or more substitute printer driver identifications; and  
establish an operational association between a substitute printer driver of the server and a printer coupled in data communication with the server in response to a selection command input.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, and wherein the executable program code is further configured to cause the processor of the server to selectively amend at least one data record of the database of the server using one or more data records downloaded from a predetermined network-accessible database in response to an update command input.

27. A data system, comprising:  
means for imaging sheet media;  
means for displaying contents of one or more data records, each data record including a printer type identification, one or more substitute printer driver identifications associated with the printer type identification, and one or more compatibility ratings associated with the printer type identification and a particular one of the substitute printer driver identifications;  
means for establishing an operational association between the means for imaging sheet media and a substitute printer driver means; and  
means for amending a database means in accordance with the at least one data record downloaded from a predetermined remote means.

1           28.    An apparatus, comprising:  
2           a computer-accessible storage media including a database of one or more data  
3 files, each of the one or more data files including:  
4           a printer type identification;  
5           one or more substitute printer driver identifications associated with the  
6 printer type identification; and  
7           one or more compatibility ratings associated with the printer type  
8 identification and a particular one of the one or more substitute printer driver  
9 identifications.

10  
11           29.    The apparatus of claim 28, and wherein at least one of the one or more  
12 compatibility ratings is defined by one of a star rating, or a percentage rating.

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14           30.    The apparatus of claim 28, and wherein the database is defined as a  
15 mobile enterprise printing database.

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17           31.    A method of maintaining a database, comprising:  
18           browsing an Internet website hosting a network-accessible database, the  
19 network-accessible database including one or more data records;  
20           determining that a particular known compatibility rating associated with a printer  
21 type identification and an associated substitute printer driver identification within the one  
22 or more data records of the network-accessible database is inaccurate;  
23           entering information related to the particular known compatibility rating into a  
24 feedback form of the Internet website; and  
25           amending the network-accessible database in accordance with the information  
26 entered into the feedback form.

27  
28           32.    The method of claim 31, and wherein the amending the  
29 network-accessible database is defined by one of replacing a compatibility rating, or  
30 weightedly averaging a compatibility rating within the one or more data records of the  
31 network-accessible database in accordance with the information entered into the  
32 feedback form of the Internet website.



1        33. The method of claim 31, and wherein the amending the  
2 network-accessible database is defined by adding textual comments regarding a  
3 compatibility rating to the one or more data records of the network-accessible database  
4 in accordance with the information entered into the feedback form of the Internet  
5 website.

6  
7        34. An apparatus, comprising:  
8 a mobile device configured to be coupled in wireless data communication with a  
9 network, the mobile device further configured to:

10            selectively download an electronic message by way of the network in  
11 response to a user input, the electronic message referencing one or more  
12 associated electronic documents not downloaded to the mobile device;

13            receive an input corresponding to a user selection of one or more of the  
14 associated electronic documents; and

15            issue a wireless print command to a device of the network in response to  
16 the input, the print command including a reference to the electronic message, a  
17 reference to the one or more user selected electronic documents, at least one  
18 credential, and a printer type reference.